Statement

No. 730/31/C/8/94—E&S-II

Government of India
(Bharat Sarkar)

Prime Minster's Office
(Pradhan Mantri Karyalaya)

New Delhi-110011, the 17th July, 1994.

ORDER

It has been decided to conduct a preliminary administrative enquiry to ascertain facts and fix prima facie responsibility for lapses, if any, in dealing with the situation arising out of shortage in availability of sugar in the current sugar Season. Government is pleased to entrust the enquiry to Shri Gian Prakash, retired Comptroller and Auditor General of India. He will have powers to summon all necessary documents from all concerned departments, Ministries and Organisations and to speak to all the concerned official and non-official functionaries. He would be required to submit his report to the Prime Minister in one month's time.

The terms of reference of the enquiry will be as follows :—

To examine and report on :

I. The steps taken by concerned Departments, Organisations and Institutions to accurately forecast the production and demand of sugar during the sugar year 1993-94, and the adequacy of measures taken by them to deal with the situation after shortage of sugar during the season was identified.

II. The steps taken to facilitate and maintain contacts and monitor details of contracting by private traders for importing sugar after imports were placed on CGL.

III. Adequacy of contingency planning to deal with :

(a) adequate availability of sugar ;

(b) adequate supplies through PDS ;

(c) speculative increase in retail prices of sugar ;

(d) cooperation of the sugar Industry.

Sd/-

(A. N. Varma)
Principal Secretary to Prime Minister.

Copy forwarded to :—

1. Shri Gian Prakash
2. Cabinet Secretary
3. Secretary, Ministry of Food
4. Secretary, Ministry of Civil Supplies, CA & PD
5. Secretary, Ministry of Finance
6. Secretary, Ministry of Commerce
7. Secretary, Deptt. of Agriculture & Cooperation.

Marketing of agricultural products under GATT

*85. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that consequent upon the GATT agreement, marketing of farm products, seeds and agricultural implements etc., among the signatory countries have become free from any restrictions whatsoever ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in the light of the change in marketing situation, particularly of the seeds, efforts have been made to generate superior quality seeds in the research institutions, including those attached to the Agricultural Universities, with a view to face

competition from imported seeds in the domestic market and to harness export markets for Indian seeds; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) We have a reasonsably strong and time tested research network. Due to concerted efforts, about 200 improved varieties of different crops have been released and notified for commercial cultivation in the country so far.

Seeds of fruits, vegetables and some other crops are also being exported from the country.

Production of sugarcane in Maharashtra and Gujarat

*86. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that sugarcane production in Maharashtra and Gujarat is much less than installed capacity of the sugar mills;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what measures Government are taking to increase sugarcane production in these two States;

(c) whether new sugar mills are proposed to be set up in Maharahtra and Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir, except that during the current 1993-94 season the sugarcane production in Maharashtra was not commensurate with the installed sugar production capacity in the State.

(b) In case of Maharashtra, the decline in sugarcane production could be attributed to the fall in cane area due to adverse climatic factors, diversion of cane area to other remunerative crops etc.

From the Sugar Development Fund, from 1986-87 to 30-6-94, an amount of Rs. 77.92 Crores has been disbursed to sugar factories in Maharashtra and 1.60 Crores to sugar factoriesin Gujarat for sugarcane development schemes.

(c) and (d) 17 letters of intent have been issued in the State of Maharashtra and 2 letters of intent in Gujarat State for setting up of new sugar mills during the sugar year 1993-94 upto 30th June, 1994. A statement giving the details of these mills is enclosed.

Statement

The Letters of intent issued during the sugar year **1993-94** *upto* **30th June, 1994** *for setting up of New sugar Mills (Locationwise and sectorwise) in the States of Maharashtra and Gujarat*

S.NS.	Name of applicant	Location	Sector
	MAHARASHTRA:		
	Distt. Satara		
1	M/s Tulja Bhavani Devi SSK Ltd. . .	At Rajuri, Teh. Phaltan	Coop.
2	M/s Kissan Veer SSK Ltd. . . .	At Khandala	Coop.